



US009652090B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Tan et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,652,090 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **May 16, 2017**

(54) **DEVICE FOR DIGITAL COMMUNICATION
THROUGH CAPACITIVE COUPLING**

(75) Inventors: **Liquan Tan**, Sunnyvale, CA (US);
Jonah A. Harley, Los Gatos, CA (US);
Feiqiao Brian Yu, Stanford, CA (US)

4,320,292 A 3/1982 Oikawa et al.
4,334,219 A 6/1982 Paulus et al.
4,345,248 A 8/1982 Togashi et al.
4,405,921 A 9/1983 Mukaiyama
4,439,855 A 3/1984 Dholakia
4,476,463 A 10/1984 Ng et al.

(Continued)

(73) Assignee: **Apple Inc.**, Cupertino, CA (US)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

CN 1243282 A 2/2000
CN 1278348 A 12/2000
(Continued)

(21) Appl. No.: **13/560,963**

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

(22) Filed: **Jul. 27, 2012**

Abileah, A. et al. (2004). "59.3: Integrated Optical Touch Panel in
a 14.1" AMLCD," *SID '04 Digest* (Seattle) pp. 1544-1547.

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2014/0028607 A1 Jan. 30, 2014

(Continued)

(51) **Int. Cl.**
G06F 3/045 (2006.01)
G06F 3/044 (2006.01)
G06F 3/041 (2006.01)
G06F 3/0354 (2013.01)

Primary Examiner — Jennifer Mehmood
Assistant Examiner — Stephen T Reed
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Morrison & Foerster
LLP

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC **G06F 3/044** (2013.01); **G06F 3/03545**
(2013.01); **G06F 3/045** (2013.01); **G06F**
3/0416 (2013.01)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
None
See application file for complete search history.

A computing device configured to communicate with an
input device. The computing device includes a processor, a
touch interface, such as a touch screen, and a receiving unit.
The touch interface is configured to detect an input signal
corresponding to an object approaching or contacting a
surface. The receiving unit is configured to receive, through
the touch interface, at least one input signal from the input
device, and the receiving unit amplifies the at least one input
signal creating at least one amplified input signal. Addition-
ally, at least one of the processor or the receiving unit
analyzes the at least one amplified input signal and creates
at least one output digital signal corresponding to the at least
one input signal.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

3,462,692 A 8/1969 Bartlett
3,970,846 A 7/1976 Schofield et al.
4,220,815 A 9/1980 Gibson et al.
4,281,407 A 7/1981 Tosima
4,289,927 A 9/1981 Rodgers

23 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets

